Students will research a bill, summarize it including information about a Congressperson and present it to the class using a powerpoint presentation.

No slides on the powerpoint can have more than 50 words. To the extent possible, pictures should be used rather than words (a picture says a 1000 words!).

1st you need to make a group. We have 13 students in the class so 3 groups of 3 and one group of 4.

2nd- Choose your bill. I will help you locate the bill.

You will use the website [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

Below will help you Navigate the site.

Navigation the website:

**Legislative Activity**

* [Schedule](http://www.house.gov/#schedule)
* [Floor Proceedings](http://www.house.gov/#floor)
* [Votes](http://www.house.gov/#votes)
* [Bills & Reports](http://www.house.gov/#bills)

**Upcoming Events**

**INSTRUCTIONS- click on votes you will get a table with bills for example:**

**Most Recent Votes**

Click on [View all](http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2011/index.asp)

| **Roll** | **Date** | **Bill** | **Result** | **Title/Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [741](http://clerk.house.gov/cgi-bin/vote.asp?year=2011&rollnumber=741) | 09-23 | [H R 2401](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d112:H.R.2401:) | Passed | To require analyses of the cumulative and incremental impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes |

H.R. stands for House of Representatives-- When a bill starts in one branch of Congress it starts as with a number and with either HR in front for the House of Representative or an S for the Senate.

Go to the bottom of the screen- look at the roll number below and click on the appropriate range, ie. If roll 232 than click on 200-299.

Click on the range and then scroll the screen for your bill.

Group 1 will work on roll 494 ( HR 2278)

Group 2 will work on roll 699 (HR 2076)

Group 3 will work on roll 563 (HR 2417)

Group 4 will work on roll 147 (HR 1)

| **Roll** | **Date** | **Bill** | **Result** | **Title/Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [741](http://clerk.house.gov/cgi-bin/vote.asp?year=2011&rollnumber=741) | 09-23 | [H R 2401](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d112:H.R.2401:) | Passed | To require analyses of the cumulative and incremental impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes |

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If you click on the HR, a new screen will open which is the

A breakdown and description of the Bill.

**H.R.2401**  
**Latest Title:** Transparency in Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation Act of 2011  
**Sponsor:** [Rep Sullivan, John](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/?&Db=d112&querybd=@FIELD(FLD003+@4((@1(Rep+Sullivan++John))+01689))) [OK-1] (introduced 6/24/2011) [Cosponsors](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d112:HR02401:@@@P) (44)   
**Related Bills:**[H.RES.406](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d112:HE00406:), [H.R.1705](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d112:HR01705:)  
**Latest Major Action:** 9/26/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.  
**House Reports:** [112-208](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/cpquery/R?cp112:FLD010:@1(hr208))

The title can be very specific or as in this case, confusing.

The Sponsor is the person who brings the bill forward. The cosponsor sign onto the bill as supporters.

The C.R.S summary is the Congressional Research Service. They boil the bill down to 1 or 2 pages.

Committees refers to the groupings in Congress that oversee specific areas of concern.

Constitutional Authority refers to the requirement that every bill submitted state what in the Constitution allows Congress to do such a thing. If the only item cited is the section and article of the Constitution involved. Find the

Subjects refers to all the different areas of concerns that the bill incorporates.

Find out who the Sponsor is. If there is no sponsor than speak to me and I’ll assign one.

1. What district do they represent?
2. How long have they been a Congressperson?
3. What did they do before they were an elected Congressperson?
4. Is the Congressperson a democrat or republican?
5. Where did they go to college?
6. What is something that your group finds “interesting” about the particular Congressperson
7. What committees is she or he on in Congress?

DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON THEIR OWN WEBSITES. Their own websites include their campaign website and their House.gov website. You can use Wikipedia.org but you will need to try to ensure that the information you get from Wikipedia is accurate. That means you’ll have to look at the Wikipedia citation to determine if the information Wikipedia has is from a valid source.

What’s the legislation about and why is it necessary? (this will require some research about the background to the topic).

What’s the Constitutional Authority that allows the Federal Government to act on this issue.

What was the last thing that happened to the bill?

What does your group think about the bill (a no/yes response is insufficient) and how would your group vote on it.

The Presentation will be graded on its accuracy, composure, thoroughness and creativity. It’s important to make the presentation interesting to your audience so try to figure out ways to hook their interest.

You will have to also include a written report of the presentation. The written report of the presentation should not be word for word the same.

Everyone in the group should be knowledgeable of everyone else’s work. That means you can’t simply divide the project into 3 or 4 parts and have that participant know only about their specific area of concern. I reserve the right to ask anyone in the group a question about any part of the presentation.

You will have to write up a short synopsis of what you did for the project and in percentage terms, how much of the final presentation you feel you contributed.

The Project will be due Thursday 10/13. You will begin the presentations that day. This Presentation and report will be one test grade.